

Farm, City Exchangees Experience Life On The Other Side Of The Fence

(Continued from Page A1)

n...and I had to hold the cow," he said.

He was amazed at the record keeping Lentz performed using a laptop computer, the cost of equipment, and the value of a cow.

"Whenever I look at the milk in our vending machines, I have a whole new appreciation (for the work behind the scenes)."

Dairy farmer Cheryl Horst, Richland, spent the day at Hotel Hershey. Working with Mary Miller, staff development manager, Horst had no difficulty adapting to eating a leisurely buffet breakfast in the circular dining room overlooking the Hershey gardens, walking the posh halls, and later eating lunch. Horst learned the three deadly sins of the service industry: never say "no," "I don't know," and "It's not my job."

On the downside, Horst said she saw the stress of keeping guests and staff happy. "At home, I can go to the barn without dressing up, combing my hair, and be grumpy — the cows don't care."

Another big benefit of farming, Horst said, "I can kiss my boss



The Century Farm Award goes to the Rev. Henry C. Heagy, who said that his calling was the ministry but he made his living on the 85-acre Annville farm. Heagy is surrounded by a few family members, which includes 12 children and their spouses, 40 grandchildren, and 16 great grandchildren. From left, are Jay and Alice Fittery, Ruth and Bob Hitz, Henry Heagy, Heidi Fittery, Elva Allen, and David Heagy.

FARMERS The Best In The Field

anytime I want and be there for my children."

Of her day on the farm, Miller said, in retrospect it seems quite silly that she wore makeup and did her hair before working in the barn.

Miller said of helping prepare udders, flushing embryos, and injecting needles in the milk vein, she learned "I am definitely a hands-on person, and not a hands-in person."

The Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce Ag Committee selected the farm of Rev. Henry C. Heagy for the Century Farm Award. Heagy said, "My calling was to the ministry, but we made our living off the farm."

He and his wife Dorothy, who passed away in 2001, raised five daughters and seven sons on the farm. All seven of those sons farm today — some farm in other states.

The great, great, great grandfather of Rev. Heagy purchased the farm in 1830, which was transferred through the years. Henry was born in 1921 and worked for his father until age 29. In 1958, Heagy and his wife

(Turn to Page A24)

Over-Order Premium To Be Reduced In Steps

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board (PMMB) has voted to incrementally decrease the over-order premium from \$1.65 to \$1.25 per hundredweight in the first four months of 2003. The over-order premium for January will be \$1.50 per cwt. In February, the over-order premium will be \$1.40 per cwt. The premium will then step down to \$1.30 per cwt. for March and to \$1.25 per cwt. for April, May, and June.

The board believes it is necessary to cushion the effect of lowering the over-order premium and, therefore, reduced it in four increments. As the lower premium takes effect, producers should be receiving monthly Milk Income Loss Contract payments through the Farm Bill, which will help lessen the effect of the lower premium.

Although market conditions still warrant an over-order premium, the dollar amount was reduced. Based upon testimony received at the Nov. 6 Over-Order Premium Hearing, the board found that the market for Pennsylvania produced milk is threatened. Because of the difference between the Pennsylvania over-order premium and premiums paid out of state, customers are beginning to demand that Pennsylvania processors seek arrangements that would allow them to avoid paying the over-order premium altogether.

While the board members are aware of the financial stress on the state's dairy farmers, and are very concerned about the situation, they believe it would be of no benefit to Pennsylvania producers to set an over-order premium at a level that would cause Pennsylvania processors — for competitive purposes — to seek ways to avoid paying the over-order premium. To maintain a strong dairy industry in Pennsylvania, all segments of the industry must be healthy. To continue the \$1.65 over-order premium in relation to out-of-state milk costs provides a very strong incentive for both in-state and out-of-state processors, based on their customers' demands, to either source their raw milk from out-of-state supplies or to structure their transactions in such a way that the over-order premium is not paid to Pennsylvania producers.

This was a difficult decision for board members. However, they felt it would be better for the Pennsylvania dairy farmer to receive a lower over-order premium than to receive no premium, and possibly lose a market for their milk.

The over-order premium is an amount paid to Pennsylvania dairy farmers for their Class I (drinking) milk that is produced, processed, and sold in Pennsylvania. The current over-order premium of \$1.65 per one hundred pounds (cwt.) of milk is scheduled to expire Dec. 31.

If it works on one thing, it might not work on another.

Roundup, for example. As effective as Roundup® is for soybeans, you should know more before you use it on your corn. Using it every year, weed resistance could become an issue. For some growers it already has. The answer? If you plant RR™ beans, plant non-RR corn hybrids and use a non-glyphosate herbicide with a different mode of action, such as Bicep II MAGNUM®. To get the latest university research on glyphosate weed resistance, visit www.weedresistance.com.

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